



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/786,837 | 02/25/2004 | Kelly Marie Morrison-Gale | | 2961 |

7590 08/08/2006

Kelly M. Morrison-Gale
19416 Ridgeline Court
Strongsville, OH 44136

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

PATEL, TAJASH D

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

3765

DATE MAILED: 08/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/786,837

Applicant(s)

MORRISON-GALE, KELLY MARIE

Examiner

Tejash D. Patel

Art Unit

3765

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Intengan (US 4,173,792) in view of New (US 3,735,420). Intengan discloses a necktie (14) including a necktie main body (16) resembling a traditional necktie form having a front, neckband, and rear sections with a necktie knot structure (40) that has a six sided configuration being positioned on the front of the necktie as shown in figure 2. Further, the knot structure is removable with female (60) and male (58) fasteners on opposite face sides thereof as also shown in figure 2. Also, the knot structure resembles an irregular octagonal shape when an imaginary line, parallel to the longest line of the shape is drawn at the midpoint thereof as shown in figure 5. However, Intengan does not show the main body and the knot structure having an octagonal configuration that is reversible.

New discloses a reversible necktie having a main body (3) and a knot structure (9) with the main body having two face sides with each of the face side including two material

pattern sections (10, 11) which resembles approximately one half of a traditional necktie form cut in an angular manner near the centermost portion of a neckband area with a traditional angular seams running near thereof, col. 2, lines 1-20 and as shown in figures 1, 2 and 4. Furthermore, the assembly includes interfacing (8,13) between the material face sides, col. 2, lines 10-20 and as shown in figure 1.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the main body and the knot structure of Intengan being reversible with each side having different pattern sections as taught by New so that the user can easily wear the necktie as required for a particular application or end use thereof. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that the knot structure of Intengan when viewed with New can have any configuration as required for a particular application or end use thereof.

Response to Amendment

3. The arguments filed on May 19, 2006 has been considered. In view of such, a new rejection referring the shape of the knot structure as prompted this office action to be made new-non final and the arguments are moot. Furthermore, it should be noted that the method steps of positioning the knot structures reversibly without removal thereof over the prior art is not claimed.

Art Unit: 3765

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tejash Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-4993. The fax phone number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tejash Patel', with a stylized, cursive script.

**TEJASH PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

August 4, 2006